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**“THE POTENTIAL OF BIOMASS PRODUCTS FOR SUSTAINABLE
AGRICULTURE”**

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ABSTRACT

This paper will assess current and potential biomass products by key agricultural sectors, and attempt to derive the potential economic impacts of the biomass products and their derived products as substitutes for current fossil fuel products used in the agricultural sector. An inter-industrial matrix that highlights the biomass products or by-products will be constructed and their economic multipliers will be derived. Focus will be on the biomass products application in the agriculture sectors. Comparison will be carried out between biomass products as agricultural inputs versus non-biomass agricultural inputs regarding their effects on the agricultural enterprise cost structure, and their effects on the economic viability of crop and livestock sectors.

The environmental effects of using the biomass products as agricultural inputs versus those effects of using non-biomass products will also be compared. The net environmental impacts of employing biomass products as inputs for the agricultural

sectors will be derived for both short term and long-term consideration and a comparison with the net benefits of a regime which does not apply the biomass products will be conducted. Thus, the differences in net benefits of these two regimes, with and without biomass products applications, will shed light on the potential contributions of biomass products to sustainable agriculture.

The sources of data used for the paper will be from the currently available ones in the United States including agricultural census, survey, special reports and special assessments of the biomass products and their application in all economic sectors, especially among the more refined sectors of agriculture.